GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4884
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2007
FOOD PARKS
Singh Shri Dushyant

Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC) has drawn up programme for boosting investment and technology in the food processing sector;

(b) whether the above council is proposed to set up food park in various States;

(c) if so, the amount of investment proposed to be made;

(d) the States where these food parks are being set up; and

(e) the details of the programme drawn up in that regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI SUBODH KANT SAHAI)

(a) to (e) : The Ministry of Food Processing Industries through policy support and interventions through its plan schemes has been promoting the development of the food processing sector in the country. The Ministry under its plan scheme in operation till the X Plan has approved 56 Food parks for providing financial assistance in the country. The Ministry has presented before the National Manufacturing Competitiveness Council (NMCC: an interdisciplinary and autonomous body to serve as a policy forum for credible and coherent policy initiatives in manufacturing sector and for advising the Government on industrial and sector specific initiatives that may be required for enhancing competitiveness of industries), an action plan for energising the food processing sector. Under the planned initiatives, a new scheme of Mega food parks in the country is proposed which is envisaged to be a well defined agri/horticultural processing zone containing state of the art processing facilities with support infrastructure and well established supply chain. The proposed scheme aims to provide a mechanism to bring together farmers, processors and retailers and link agricultural production to the market so as to ensure maximization of value addition, minimize wastages and improve farmers' income. The Ministry has initiated the process of getting conducted feasibility studies for mega food parks in the country. The scheme is under consideration/consultation with Planning Commission for inclusion in the XI Five Year Plan. It is tentatively envisaged to support 30 Mega Food Parks, spread across the country at locations to be determined through feasibility studies, during the XI Plan period on approval of the scheme. Out of Rs. 250 Crores expected for the Financial Year 2007-2008, Rs. 100 Crores is proposed for infrastructure development including for providing financial assistance for Food Parks / Mega Food Parks.